

**CREDIBILITY OF WITNESS - PRIOR ADJUDICATION OF DELINQUENCY**

Evidence has been introduced to show that [Name of Witness] has been previously adjudicated a juvenile delinquent and is presently on [CHOOSE APPROPRIATE: parole/probation/conditional discharge/other deferred disposition]. This evidence of this witness' present status does not have any bearing on the general credibility to be given [his/her] testimony. Rather, the evidence has been admitted to allow you to determine whether [his/her] testimony has been influenced by possible bias, prejudice, interest or ulterior motive.<sup>1</sup> More specifically, this evidence may be relevant to the question whether testimony is influenced by a hope or expectation of favorable treatment.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Davis v. Alaska, 415 U.S. 308 (1974); Biunno, Current New Jersey Rules of Evidence, Comment 4 to N.J.R.E. 611 (2003 Edition, page 760).

<sup>2</sup> State v. Spano, 69 N.J. 231, 235 (1976); United States ex. rel. Herring v. Fenton, 531 F.Supp. 937, 941 (D.N.J. 1981); Biunno, Current New Jersey Rules of Evidence, Comment 2 to N.J.R.E. 609 (2003 Edition, page 717).